

# EAST BAY LABOR JOURNAL

THE ONLY OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF ORGANIZED LABOR IN ALAMEDA COUNTY

OWNED, CONTROLLED and PUBLISHED by AFL CENTRAL LABOR COUNCIL of ALAMEDA COUNTY and BUILDING and CONSTRUCTION TRADES COUNCIL of ALAMEDA COUNTY

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## Holmdahl Backs Labor Plea on Motel; Voted Down 8-1

### REPORT

To Our Readers - Owners

#### NOON WHISTLE

You've doubtless heard the story about the engineer at a factory in a small town who used to call up the telephone operator—this was before the days of Rochester 7-8900—about 11:30 a.m. and ask her the time of day.

After he'd done that for some time, the telephone operator asked him why he always did this.

"Because I have to blow the factory whistle exactly at noon," he replied, "and I want to be sure my watch is right."

"That's interesting," laughed the phone girl, "because here at this office we always set the clock at noon by your whistle!"

#### HIRAM MANN

The real point to that famous anecdote seems to us to be that most of us go around taking our cues from each other, and thus we move in a circle mentally. It's wonderful to hear of people who don't do this.

Take, for instance, Hiram Mann, a New York self-taught lawyer who died recently at the age of 83. In 1908 he took a case involving overtime payments for 1,400 Navy Yard workers. These men, between 1878 and 1882, had agreed to work 10 hours instead of 8 in an emergency. So the case was already old when Mann took hold of it.

Mann fought that case for 27 years. He spent much of his own money on it. Finally, in 1935, he won out, Congress passing a bill authorizing \$332,342.74 for back pay. The money was distributed among children and grandchildren of those people who had done that overtime work as much as 57 years before the claims were finally paid.

Mann said that his satisfaction came in waging the battle and "in triumph of stubbornness." You can see that he was a real individual. For instance, he wrote and had printed on a postal card his appraisal of the U. S. Constitution, and would send it to anyone who might benefit by it.

#### MAVERICK!

When Hiram Mann at an advanced age retired from law, he still wanted to be around where he could see people, so he took a job as a messenger in a big New York newspaper office. There, until a short time ago, he could be seen in the corridors of the big building, carrying messages from one department to the other, an alert and dignified figure, his white mane bobbing, and quoting Shakespeare to the elevator operators.

Traffic signals, the need for industrial smooth-runningness, and many other modern tendencies make most of us hunt for conformity. Yes, we phone for the time, you might say, and blow the whistle, and then at the other end the fellow sets his watch by the time we gave to the whistle-blower. Around and around: But not Hiram Mann. He blew his own whistle, he set his own time.

His friends said he meant well, but was a maverick. Pleasant, though, to hear of such people still digging their own tunnels through our complex conformities.

#### \*\*\*

Recently a group of industrialists met at an eastern college to discuss the question, "What is the Answer to Automation?" What they decided, we have no way of knowing, but we can give them the real answer in one sentence. The answer is automation is shorter hours to spread employment, and higher pay to increase purchasing power.—The Carpenter.

### OFFICIAL NOTICES

The following unions will find notices of important meetings called by their officers on page 3 of this issue of the Journal.

SHEET METAL 216  
STEAMFITTERS 342  
AUTO MACHINISTS 1546  
BUILDING SERVICE 18  
HAYWARD PAINTERS 1178  
MAILERS 18  
PLASTERERS 112  
MILLMEN 550  
PAINTERS 127



URBAN RENEWAL CHAIRMAN—The pleasant faced individual seated to the left is Norris Nash, the Kaiser official generously loaned by his company to head Oakland's Urban Renewal Citizens Committee. The person seated alongside Nash is Sheriff Gleason, who, incidentally, has a card in News-drivers 96. Oakland City Councilman John W. Holmdahl, backed by the AFL in the election this year, and formerly active in Paint Makers 1101, stands to the left. To the right of him is Supervisor Francis Dunn Jr., Painters 127, elected with the backing of the AFL. Next is Robert S. Ash, secretary of the Central Labor Council, a member of the Citizens Urban Renewal Committee. This picture was taken especially for East Bay Labor Journal at the recent Boosters' banquet which honored Norris Nash as president of the Oakland Chamber of Commerce, because we wished to get a good picture of Nash as the man who has done so much for urban renewal, in which organized labor is greatly interested.

### Office Employees' Hospital Strike Wins Pact Sought

Two hundred fifty members of Office Employees 29 went back to work at Kaiser Foundation Hospital Wednesday morning, having won by a strike of several days duration their point that the contract signed in 1954 shall be reopened annually instead of being changed to an 18-month basis.

The contract, signed July 1, 1954, is for 3 years, providing for annual reopening to discuss wages and certain specified fringe issues. This year the hospital management insisted that the agreement should be for 18 months instead of the year provided for in the contract. The union stood firm, saying that the three-year contract was made in good faith, and does not expire until July 1, 1957.

In addition to winning the point about the length of the agreement, a wage increase is provided for.

A 5-cent hourly increase goes to 150 of the members working for the hospital, and an average of 5 1/2 cents an hour goes to 100 of them, said John Kinnick, president of Local 29. The increases are retroactive to July 17.

Also, said Kinnick, the hospital management has agreed that a complete job classification will be finished not later than November 1. This is a project in which the union is greatly interested.

State Conciliator Joe Chambers assisted in making the settlement. For several weeks Central Labor Council Assistant Secretary W. P. Fee has been reporting at CLC meetings the difficulties a subcommittee of the CLC executive board faced in the negotiations.

### Carpenters Auxiliary In Pleasant Bingo Party At Hospital, Vallejo

By ALTA BENONY

Six members of Carpenters' Ladies Auxiliary 160, held a bingo party on Monday evening, August 8, at Vallejo for 28 patients from the rehabilitation center at Kaiser Hospital. They spent a very pleasant and entertaining hour playing bingo with a small prize awarded for the winner of each game. After the games at 8 p.m., the ladies served homemade cupcakes, cookies and iced lemonade.

The patients, from a 30-year-old young lady to an 80-year-old gentleman were delighted and told the ladies, "Thanks so very much, please come again real soon."

The ladies of 160 were Dora Holder, Jess Flanigan, Diana Holder, Jean Kinney, Helen Lindahl and President Alta Benony.

### ACTION PLANNED SOON ON ALBANY HOSPITAL

Albany Hospital management having shown no disposition to enter collective bargaining with the Culinary Workers Joint Board, as soon as the State Federation of Labor convention in San Diego is over, action will be taken.

This statement was made to East Bay Labor Journal as delegates were leaving for San Diego.

At the July 25 meeting of the Central Labor Council the announcement was made that in the opinion of the culinary crafts "the Albany Hospital is unworthy of union patronage. We are always met with the absolute refusal of the management to discuss anything with the union."

### Old Tricks Pulled On Apple Strikers

Today (Friday) three Teamster organizers were scheduled to appear before Superior Judge Hilliard Crompton in Santa Rosa to face charges that they are in contempt of the court's injunction against striking apple canners.

One of the three Teamster organizers is William Grami, who was kidnapped and beaten last week. The others are Harold Abelsen and Stanley Maxwell.

The beating by masked men of Grami is only one of the tricks pulled against the union, say Teamster leaders. The ancient device of having the building in which strikers meet declared unfit for human habitation, etc., has been pulled out of the hat.

The organizers had so much difficulty getting a place to hold strikers' meetings that finally the union bought one. Now it is alleged that the building should be condemned.

The union has filed unfair labor practice charges against one of the struck canneries, and the NLRB has conducted some hearings, which have been recessed to August 29.

An employers' association and the Associated Farmers, according to the Teamsters, are directing the strategy of the anti-unionists.

President Joseph J. Diviny of the Highway Drivers Council of the Teamsters sent a wire from the State Federation of Labor convention in San Diego to the California Trucking Association on the situation in Sonoma county.

Diviny said in his wire that no employees of the Trucking Association should be asked to drive in the apple area under the dangerous conditions prevailing, and that any effort to force drivers to do this "will be made the basis of Statewide and appropriate action" by the Teamsters.

### Uncle Sam Retired Employees Receive Larger Annuities

A. B. McClintock, secretary of the AFL Letter Carriers here, calls attention to the fact that on Thursday, August 11, 1955, President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed H. R. 7618, the bill providing for an increase in annuities not only for postal employees, but other retired government workers. This bill provides for an increase of 12 percent on the first \$1,500 of annuity, and 8 percent on the amount of annuity above \$1,500. The increase will be effective on October 1 and will be included in the check received by the annuitants November 1.

The percentage increase declines for those who retired after June 30, 1955. All of those who go on the annuity rolls up until December 31, 1957, will receive an increased amount because of the passage of this bill.

The increase applies to survivor annuitants who are now on the rolls and who will be added to the retirement rolls up until December 1, 1957, as well as to other annuitants. The increased amount given retired employees, however, is not used in computing the annuity of their survivors.

"The passage of H. R. 7618 in the dying days of the session represents a splendid legislative achievement," says the National Association of Letter Carriers' bulletin. "Senator Olin D. Johnston, Senator W. Kerr Scott, Congressman Tom Murray and others cooperated splendidly in the last days of Congress to enact this bill into law."

### Supervisor Dunn Will Speak at Southern Co. Voters League Aug. 25

Supervisor Francis Dunn Jr. will be guest speaker at the meeting of the Southern California County Voters League meeting at 8 p.m. Thursday, August 25, at the Old Labor Temple in Hayward, 696 B street.

Robert Taylor, Chauffeurs 923, publicity chairman for the League, announces that all organized labor people and their friends are urged to come to the meeting, and hear Supervisor Dunn discuss the many issues and problems confronting the southern end of the county.

Can any union in Oregon match this record? The Eugene Typographical Union has 83 members, including apprentices and pensioners, and 71 of them are paid-up members of Labor's League for Political Education. That's an 88 per cent batting average.—Oregon Labor Press.

Tell 'em you saw it in the East Bay Labor Journal.

### BTC Requested to Note the Resistol Hat Is Non-Union

The following communication was read to the Building Trades Council by Secretary John Davy at a recent meeting:

To all Building and Construction Trades Councils

Dear Sirs and Brothers:

The Resistol Hat Manufacturing Company which is non-union of Garland, Texas and in the future Longview, Texas is in the process of installing the necessary utilities and equipment in the Longview plant, which includes the electrical construction, plumbing and pipefitting, setting of all machinery and the painting.

This work is being performed by non-union people, below the established wage scale and conditions in this area.

Every effort was made by the Longview Building and Construction Trades Council to induce the Resistol Hat Company to comply with the established wage rates and conditions for this work.

The Longview Building and Construction Trades Council is requesting that all members of organized labor be advised of this condition and refuse to purchase the non-union made Resistol Hat. It would be appreciated if this information was posted on your bulletin board.

Martin B. Reynolds, Secretary Longview Building and Construction Trades Council

### Man Who Gave Trib's Congressman Close Run Is Featured by Trib

Buell G. Gallagher, who in 1948 came within a few thousand votes of defeating the Oakland Tribune's candidate for Congress, was featured this week in the Sunday Tribune.

Dr. Gallagher, now president of the College of the City of New York, is the author of an article in the Parade section of the Tribune entitled "Why Not Salaries for College Athletes?"

Dr. Gallagher says that as long as colleges pretend that their teams are made up of amateurs, when actually they are made up of men who are actually professionals, "young men are taught that it's all right to lie, to cheat, to steal."

He tells of the boy who comes to college and is told: "You've got a job as dormitory janitor for \$50 a week, but all you have to do is polish the knob on the door of your room once a semester."

He suggests that under his plan "colleges that hire players would form an Intercollegiate Professional League. . . . These schools would play each other on an honest professional basis. The colleges that prefer to be amateur would play only other amateur teams."

Dr. Gallagher is amused at the way we American accuse "the Russians of subsidizing Olympic athletes" when every American knows that if a college's players "keep winning conference title or placing high, then its 99 to 1 that they, too, were paid."

He became so busy and

### Meany Tells Convention He'll Build AFLCIO Political Power

AFL President George Meany told an applauding State Federation of Labor convention at San Diego this week that many daily papers were saying that the merged AFLCIO would become a powerful political machine, and that his own attitude is as follows:

"Well, it is going to be a political machine if I have anything to do with it."

Joe W. Chaudet, general manager of East Bay Labor Journal, who telephoned from San Diego said there was great enthusiasm shown by the delegates when the AFL head made this strong statement. Meany had led up to it by outlining the big problems, world and national, faced by this nation, and the need for labor's influence being felt.

Meany told of the spreading of the so-called "right to work" laws in many States, which organized labor calls the "right to wreck" laws, to wreck open shop compulsion. He said that more Governors should take the stand against such laws which California's Governor Goodwin J. Knight has taken.

Governor Knight in his address to the convention started off by saying that "I'm reporting on one year of my stewardship," and was applauded many

times. He told of the labor people he has appointed to State posts, and the stands he has taken for labor on various issues.

President Meany was presented with a handsome set of golf clubs during the session, a gift from the California AFL.

Alameda county delegates on convention committees included:

Legislation—Jack Kopke, Paint Makers 1101, and E. H. Vernon, Automotive Machinists 1546.

Officers Reports—Al E. Albertoni, Fire Fighters 55.

Grievance—John F. Quinn, Bartenders 52, president of the Central Labor Council.

Ernest B. Webb, who recently became Director of Industrial Relations, made an excellent talk before the convention. Chaudet said, as did Dan Flanagan, Western AFL Director.

The convention ends today (Friday).

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### Risley Speaks for AFL at Meeting of Oakland's Council

The Oakland City Council on Tuesday voted down, 8 to 1, the proposal that the building of a motel at 14th and Oak streets be permitted.

Councilman John W. Holmdahl cast the one vote for the proposal.

C. E. Risley, Carpenters 36, presented labor's arguments for the motel project. J. L. Childers, Building Trades Council business representative, tried to come up from the State Federation of Labor convention in San Diego to be at the City Council meeting, but was unable to get a plane.

The motel project had been endorsed by both the Central Labor Council and the Building Trades Council.

### HOLMDAHL SPEAKS

Councilman Holmdahl in arguing for permitting the building of the motel said that when he first heard of the plan he felt that since the proposed motel would be so close to Lake Merritt, the plans for it should be examined very carefully.

But, said Holmdahl, the plans had not only been examined carefully, but important restrictions had been outlined by the city's experts, so that the building under such restrictions would be very attractive, with no glaring neon signs, and with parking in the rear.

In no way, argued Councilman Holmdahl, could such a beautiful building as that planned, be considered unsightly or a detriment to the lake front. He urged that the plan, with the restrictions outlined by the Adjustment Board, be approved.

TRIB OPPOSED

The council chambers were crowded, as there has been much interest in the proposal, and opinion among property owners and other citizens has been divided. The Oakland Tribune has repeatedly attacked the motel proposal, arguing that any motels in the area would derange plans for the civic center.

Labor people who strongly favored permitting the building of the motel told East Bay Labor Journal that while the proposal was defeated, one good thing came out of the controversy, and that was the additional action of the City Council Tuesday in calling for a survey by the city's experts of the whole lake front problem.

Labor people have contended that while there is much talk about the need for preserving the beauty of the lake front, actually there are vacant lots loaded with tin cans and trash, and many unsightly dilapidated buildings, along the front. They feel that if the City Council were to take a genuine survey of the situation in mind, a policy benefiting the city greatly may result.

They say that the shoemaker's children always need shoes, and that the roofer's house always needs a new roof—and true to such sayings—the Bakers ran short on bread during their annual picnic.—Sacramento Valley Union Labor Bulletin.

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## HOW TO BUY

### High-Pressure Cemetery Deals

By SIDNEY MARGOLIS  
Labor Consumer Advisor for Labor Journal

Right now in approximately 100 U. S. cities there are active cemetery promotions appealing to families and individuals to buy burial space in advance of need. Many of these are unproven "pre-development" promotions. That is, the salesmen are merely selling undeveloped real estate at a high price.

If past experience with similar high-pressure cemetery promotions is any guide, some of these tracts now being sold as cemetery lots will never become cemeteries, while others may but at great cost to the local sponsors and purchasers of lots after the traveling promoters move on to another community.

Cemetery promotions currently are especially active in the mid-West. Such large cities as Cleveland have been the scene of active promotions recently, but promoters have also been operating increasingly in smaller towns of 25-30,000 population. So active have they been that 15 states enacted laws in 1953, '54 and '55 requiring that whenever a pre-need service is sold, all the money paid in advance must be placed in trust. Six other states have enacted laws placing all pre-need funeral programs under varying types of jurisdiction.

The basic idea of these laws is to see that the money you pay in advance for a cemetery lot is placed in escrow, so the promoters can't walk off with it. Because that is what has happened in many cases.

When a cemetery promotion is staged with a large force of salesmen, it is a fact that much of the money you pay for the lot goes for the salesmen's and sales manager's commissions. The Association of Better Business Bureaus points out that just because prominent local people may be listed as sponsoring the new cemetery is no guarantee of the soundness of the project, since the actual control may still remain in the hands of the promoters. Nor is the fact that the memorial park or cemetery association may be organized as a "non-profit corporation," any guarantee that the promoters are not making substantial and sometimes exorbitant sales commissions or profits.

The Better Business Bureau's point out that the first thing many promoters do is to secure options on tracts of low-priced land near a main highway. Then they organize a cemetery association, exercise their option to buy the land and then re-sell it to the new association at many times the price paid.

They then put on a razzle-dazzle sales campaign. One of the sales devices currently used is the "free chicken" door opener. The salesman first phones the family to find out when husband and wife will both be home (it is important to his purpose that the wife be there). He arrives with a free chicken as a gift to the family, which gets him into the house. Once there he plays upon the husband's pride in front of his wife, in providing for his family's needs.

Other appeals often used are offers of a "free" burial vault, or a "special price" or "gift" in exchange for the use of your name for sales or publicity purposes.

The Cleveland Better Business Bureau reports that a current promotion has been showing prospective customers an artist's drawing of a beautiful cemetery development. The lots are sold to buyers for \$150, but when you read the contract more closely, you see that this is just for the lot, and the "amphicrypt" unit, which is what the promoters call the raised grave shown in the artist's drawing, actually costs you \$425.

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**PATRONIZE ONLY UNION BARBER SHOPS THAT DISPLAY THIS SIGN**



### Household Hints

#### This and That

No drycleaning fluid is 100 per cent safe. Never use flammable liquids for drycleaning at home. With nonflammable, non-explosive carbon tetrachloride, you should work out-of-doors. Vapors from this fluid may be harmful to breathe. Hang articles where there is plenty of circulating air.

To lighten clean-up chores with fireplace cooking, soap your cooking utensils on the bottoms so soot can be removed easily.

When packing away knitted and jersey garments, fold them around the cardboard forms used by laundries for men's shirts. Use tissue paper also, and fold the garment as it was when purchased. You'll find that knit dress will have a good-as-new look when fall comes.

Safeguard your home. Burns and scalds are often caused by carelessness with stoves, burning trash, cigarettes, kerosene, gasoline, and cleaning fluids, and by leaving matches or hot water within the reach of children.

### Buyer Beware

#### Food and Drugs!

Consumers need to rally around and demand better protection from the Food and Drug Administration than they are now getting. But first FDA must have an increased budget.

FDA was born in the Agriculture Department, moved to Federal Security Agency, and then in 1953 to the newly created Department of Health, Education, and Welfare.

FDA enforces five laws—all dealing with standards of labeling, purity, and information helpful to consumers. One of these—and the most important single act benefiting consumers—is the Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act. It prohibits adulterating or misbranding any food, drug, device, or cosmetic in interstate commerce; giving false guarantees; and altering or destroying labels if this results in misbranding the product.

Here is the way the act helps you. Your cosmetics can't have any poisonous material, if they're shipped from one state to another. If you buy a hair dye that irritates your skin, the label must warn you of this danger. Food must not have unsafe amounts of harmful ingredients. Canners adding a seasoning chemical must label their products. Since late 1954, you've read on many of your tinned vegetables, "Monosodium Glutamate Added." FDA requires it—Labor's Daily.

### If You Cuss Foreman, Do It Instinctively!

**HARTFORD, Conn.** — AFL News—A worker puts his job on the line when he cusses out his foreman but if the cussing is instinctive and without premeditation he can probably collect unemployment compensation benefits.

A Connecticut Unemployment Compensation Commissioner ruled that a 45-year-old Hartford worker who did it was not guilty of "willful misconduct" and eligible for state jobless pay benefits.

The worker swore at his foreman and called him a liar after a hassle about a fan that aggravated the worker's arthritis. The foreman fired him on the spot. The commissioner commented: "What this claimant said was undoubtedly harsh. But it was said instinctively and without premeditation. It did not offend the foreman, nor cause him to blink."

## TORCH CLUB

Your Labor Temple Neighbor  
BEST DRINKS IN TOWN  
Between Grand Ave. & 23rd St. on Broadway  
CARL MIKE, Owners  
Members Bartenders Union 52

**SWAN'S**  
DEPARTMENT STORE  
Washington Street at 10th Oakland  
Use Coupons  
Take 6 Months  
To Pay  
INCLUDING CARRYING CHARGES  
No Down Payment

CONTACT LENSES FITTED AND A COMPLETE OPTICAL SERVICE  
**Progressive Eye-Comfort Glasses**  
WITH A GUARANTEE OF COMPLETE SATISFACTION  
EDITH KNOWLES, S.D.C.  
DR. JACK JACKSON  
OPTOMETRIST  
GROUND FLOOR—1300 BROADWAY  
TELEPHAR 2-0585

## Women in This World

By EDITH McCONN

WE'RE SO ACCUSTOMED to hearing of the acts of vandalism so-called civilized man commits upon the face of nature that we sometimes forget that there are some cases where the opposite is true.

In other words, all over this country, there are examples of the desert being made to bloom by people who had enough imagination to work seeming miracles.

When the Indians lived here, for instance, Lake Merritt was not surrounded by beautiful tree-studded lawns. It probably had some willow trees and cattails, as well as swarms of mosquitoes, but it is doubtful if even the Indians lolled about it very much.

We all know the story of Golden Gate Park in San Francisco. When John McLaren first saw it, it was a waste of sandy dunes. Now it is famed the country over as one of our most beautiful parks.

The same is true of famous Central Park in New York. It was mostly bare rock, with swamps and marshes here and there. Top soil in great quantities had to be brought in before anything would grow. Even now it is a struggle to keep enough soil for the trees.

These are only a few samples of cases where man has improved upon nature.

Such examples should serve as an inspiration to all of us who have a bit of land at our disposal, either individually or collectively.

It is relatively easy for all of us to want to beautify our own back yards.

But every city still has "back yards"—ugly neglected spots that could be made to bloom and give us pleasure. Even parking lots need not be as ugly as they usually are.

All we need is a little imagination. Who's got it?

### Speaking of Clothes

#### Fashion Speed

A husband's immediate concern for his wallet after reading the latest fashion magazine from Paris is not a groundless one, according to Miss Geitel Winakor in an article in the Journal of Home Economics.

Today, she states, it takes only two months for a "high" fashion to become an "accepted" one and appear in the average woman's clothes closet. These findings are based on a study of issues between 1893 and 1950 of two high-fashion magazines, "Vogue" and "Harper's Bazaar," and two magazines in which accepted styles appear, "Good Housekeeping" and the "Ladies Home Journal."

New elements that affect the silhouette, such as skirt or sleeve types, are adopted sooner than details, such as trimming, she found. Silhouette changes become accepted in two months today, style details in 2.4 months. In the 1893-1905 period, before the era of mass production of garments, it took eight months for silhouette changes to become general, 9.3 months for details.

The most quickly accepted change in fashion is the hemline height. In fact, Miss Winakor could find no appreciable time lag between the introduction of a new skirt length in high fashion and its appearance in accepted fashion. (This finding was borne out by the national sewing bee that went on in this country after the war when the New Look was introduced and women, who could not wait for mass production to catch up with the new styles, let down and faced the hems of their garments.)

How fast does a fashion become obsolete? Twenty-six months for silhouette elements and fourteen months for style details in high-fashion circles; twenty-seven and fourteen months, respectively, in popular-fashion areas, according to the author.

**SCHOOL ATTENDANCE**  
In Alameda county, 143,012 during the 1954-55 school year registered an increase of more than 9000 over the previous year, says Dr. Vaughn D. Seidel, county superintendent of schools.

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### Some Good Food

#### Quick Waffles

Next time you have some waffle batter left over, bake it and freeze the waffles. After the waffles are cool, wrap them in moisture-vapor-proof material and put into the food freezer. If you freeze more than a single layer of waffles, place a piece of freezer paper between the layers.

For a quickie breakfast or lunch, unwrap the waffles, place quarters in the automatic toaster with dial set at light. Or place the unwrapped waffles on a shelf in the oven at 400 degrees F. for two minutes. Serve immediately.

### Child-rearing

#### You May Get Mad

It's a rare parent who at some time or other hasn't lost his temper with his child. Whether this is (a) a grievous crime, (b) a mere reminder of human frailty or (c) a perfectly right and proper state of affairs is a point of difference among child-care specialists today.

The first idea—that in times of stress parents might better suffer cerebral hemorrhage than address a sharp word to a child—is rarely expressed today. Nevertheless, there are still counselors who urgently recommend that parents do everything within their power—including psychoanalysis, if all else fails—to become the kind of "secure, mature" adult who never feels disturbed or angered by any child's behavior.

Adherents of the second school of thought agree that it would be mighty nice if parents could be perfect but, they say, a flareup now and then won't do lasting damage to a child who is basically sure of his parents' love. Aim at perfection, these advisers suggest, but don't feel crushed if you sometimes fail to achieve it. Just straighten out your halo after each fall and replace it more firmly each time.

The new point of view that may be building up is radical compared to the early experts' thinking on this score. Not only, certain specialists declare, is it impossible for parents to be perfect—they shouldn't be even if they could!

"An unhealthy situation occurs," a Cornell conference declares, "when a parent feels the need of always maintaining an attitude of calm and reasonableness. Parents should try to train children to live with flesh-and-blood human beings, not with plaster statues."—N. Y. Times.

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## FROM THE EDITOR To The Ladies

**MISS ELYNOR RUDNICK** of Bakersfield is the president of a helicopter service which is said to operate all the way from our Mojave desert heat to the subzero weather of the Arctic. She has so much standing in the business that she is the first woman to be elected president of the Helicopter Association of America.

Some of the men now employed by her firm, Kern Copters Inc., have been with it since she started the business in 1946. The other day a reporter asked her if she had any trouble about men resenting taking orders from a woman. She got out of that one neatly by replying:

"If you have good men, you never have to worry about supervising them."

**THAT REPLY** is cleverly ambiguous. It could mean that these men are so good that a woman wouldn't dream of trying to supervise them. Or it could mean that a man isn't any good who won't take orders from a woman.

The present writer remembers working at one time for a very able woman on a special job that lasted for some time. After the job was ended she said to her male subordinate:

"It was very nice to have you always, in the presence of others pretend to accept my orders absolutely; and it was very interesting to note, how later, when there were no outsiders present, you'd bowl me out and criticize some of those orders."

**OF COURSE**, some of that goes on when a man is working for a man, too. YES in the presence of outsiders, NO in private or at least a very modified YES.

Today, in general, it might be said that if a man is very touchy about ever seeming to take orders from a woman, or to be caught by his male friends helping the wife with the dishes, he's rather uncertain of himself.

## Drive Is Made to Step Up Apprenticeships

**WASHINGTON (AFL News)**—A drive to step up the apprenticeship training program has been launched by contractors, labor, and the Labor Department in an effort to meet an anticipated increase in construction volume in the next 10 to 15 years.

W. F. Patterson, director of the department's Bureau of Apprenticeship, told the joint conference called to expand the industry's training program that "the construction industry requires a vigorous all-out campaign to develop thousands of additional craftsmen and to increase the technical know-how of journeymen and supervisory personnel to keep them abreast of advancing methods, new materials and equipment."

## 18 'Wreck' States Don't Protect Worker Freedom

**WASHINGTON (AFL News)**—The 18 states that have adopted misnamed "right-to-work" laws have taken no steps to protect a worker's "freedom" from discrimination in employment.

A check of the states with "wreck" laws and the 10 states with enforceable fair employment practices laws shows no overlapping. None of the "wreck" laws states have FEAP laws; none of the FEAP law states have "wreck" laws.

Proponents of the "wreck" laws have argued that they are necessary to protect a worker's "right" to a job. This protection apparently does not involve bars to employment on the basis of color, religion, national origin and numerous other forms of discrimination practiced in the states with "wreck" laws.

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## Tribute to Ryan Written by Friend

(Continued from Page 1)

organized the present California State Council of Carpenters in 1928, of which he served as secretary for seventeen years. He also served as Executive Board Member of the San Francisco Building Trades for a number of years.

He rightfully earned the respect of union members and contractors by his sincere and unyielding approach to a problem no matter how small or large or serious it was.

He was a firm believer in exhausting all possible avenues of settlement available before resorting to "strike action." He championed the process of true arbitration at all times.

He, at all times, had the interest of his members first and foremost. In his early days, long before there was any organized apprenticeship training, he personally organized and instructed classes at night in the Carpenters Hall basement.

Many a member in time of need found him always willing to share what ever he had.

### RETURNED PENSION

On his retirement he was voted a pension of \$100.00 a month. He consistently refused to use a penny of the money, and placed it in a "Special Account" with the announced intention of returning it to his "life and love"—the labor movement.

A suggested recommendation to set aside a memorial or a David Hays Ryan scholarship is presently under consideration. The great esteem in which Mr. Ryan was held by all was in full evidence at his recent funeral. Representation from all walks of life, Union, Employers, City, County and State Agencies were present while he was laid away at Olivet Cemetery, Tuesday afternoon, Aug. 2, 1955 at 1 p.m.

His passing saddened many and many a friend and associate but his works and philosophy have left a long, lasting influence on the labor movement which was his very life.

## Government Workers Not Going to Strike-Bound Miami for Convention

**The Government Standard, official publication of the AFL American Federation of Government Employees, reported in a recent issue:**

The AFGE National Executive Council, by referendum vote, has decided not to hold the 1956 National Convention in Miami. The reason is a 100-day strike of hotel employees, a strike that shows no sign of quick settlement. Hotel owners have been refusing to bargain with their employees, many of whom have been working 60 or 70 hours a week at depression-era salaries. . . .

In announcing the decision, AFGE President J. A. Campbell expressed his regret that the hard work and preparations of Miami area AFGE's had to be in vain. He expressed the hope that actions such as the cancelling of convention plans would help bring about a quicker settlement of the strike and make the hotel owners realize that they are losing good will.

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## LAW IN ACTION

### YOU AND YOUR AGENT

What if you paid Johnnie to mow your lawn and he mowed down and ruined your neighbor's hedge? Do you pay for Johnnie's act? Most likely.

Or suppose you want a loaf of bread for dinner and ask a friend to take your car and get it. On the way to the store, suppose he runs down old Mrs. Higgenbotham. Are you responsible? Again, most likely, at least in part.

Why is this? Didn't you tell everybody to be most careful? In both cases, you got someone to act for you. Under the law, what he did, you did. You were responsible for what he did since he was your "agent."

Why does the law make you, as "principal," responsible for your agent's acts?

Well, agents do most of the world's business. And for our affairs to go forward, people must trust your agent as if you yourself acted. "Third parties"—other people doing business with you or your agent—have a

right to expect you to stand behind his word. Suppose your agent does what you told him to do, or even suppose you let third parties think he is your agent when he is not. Then you may well have to make good on any deal he makes in your name. He is either your agent or your "ostensible agent." Which is all one when it comes to paying the bills, or repairing the damage.

In most ways partners are agents for each other. What one does can bind the others. So one day you and your partner decide not to buy anything for more than \$100 unless you both sign the contract. But your partner goes ahead anyway without telling you.

Your private word with your partner won't protect you, if the salesman did not know of it. Because our business world is so complex, the law of agency hurls large today. For it defines and enforces the rights and duties of principals, agents, and third parties.

**NOTE:** The State Bar of California offers this column for your information so that you may know more about how to act under our laws.

## Help Totally Disabled And You're on the Road To Socialism, Says AMA

**CHICAGO (AFL NEWS)**—The American Medical Association says that full Social Security benefits to totally disabled workers 50 or over is a dangerous step on the road to "socialized medicine."

The AMA Board of Trustees, in an editorial in the association's Journal, termed the House-approved liberalization of the Social Security law a greater danger than the "Truman-sponsored compulsory health insurance bill."

The AMA termed the disability provision a "piecemeal approach to the socialization of medicine" because it "would establish for the first time in this country a system of national compulsory disability insurance" under the Social Security act.

Under the present law a totally disabled worker who has been covered by Social Security cannot collect his retirement benefits until he reaches 65. Last year Congress enacted legislation to "freeze" his account to allow him to draw benefits at 65 based on his earnings before becoming disabled.

This year the AFL and other groups pushed for liberalization of the provisions to allow a totally disabled worker to collect his Social Security payments upon proof of inability to work. The House adopted a measure that would allow such payments to disabled workers 50 or over. The same bill would lower the retirement age for women workers and eligibility of widows and workers' wives to draw benefits from 65 to 62 and would extend benefits to disabled children over 18.

It would also extend coverage to self-employed professionals with the exception of physicians, and boost the tax rate per worker and employer 1/2 per cent.

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## Steamfitters at Apprentice Meeting

By JIM MARTIN

This article originates from Purdue University in Lafayette, Ind., where the Second Annual Apprentice Conference is being held. Early registrations show that this year's contest and conference will surpass last year's attendance of contestants, instructors, United Association members and contractors. Representing Local Union 342 here at the Conference are Ernie Boyer, Chairman of our Apprenticeship Committee, William Weber, representing the Board of Trustees, and the writer, committee member of the National Apprenticeship Committee. The results of this contest will appear in this paper and a report of this contest will be given at the next meeting on September 1.

We are very happy to report that General President Durkin's operation was most encouraging, even beyond our highest expectations. His condition was far less serious than had been anticipated and doctors say that he may have visitors soon. The entire United Association joins in wishing our General President a speedy recovery and return to the office in the not too distant future.

At a special called meeting, held July 29, the General Executive Board passed a resolution which authorizes and empowers Peter T. Schoemann to do and perform any and all acts or things with full power and authority in accordance with the Constitution and By-Laws of the United Association and also that he will serve on all Committees and other offices held by General President Martin P. Durkin. The above is to immediately cease and terminate when General President Durkin returns to office.

A meeting was held with Mr. John Hutchinson, Coordinator of Labor Relations, whereby arrangements were made to have our Journeyman Training Committee in attendance for a series of lectures starting September 1, 1955. These first weekly lectures will deal with the problems faced by organized labor in peace time development of atomic energy and will be presented by outstanding authorities in this field. The subjects to be covered are: Principles of Atomic Energy, Peacetime Development of Atomic Energy, Problems and Prospects, Construction and Maintenance Problems in Atomic Energy Development, Health Problems and Safety and Workman's Compensation in Atomic Energy. As Local 342 does have the jurisdiction of all pipe work in Industrial Plants, etc., this information will be a great asset to our members. For future information, please read this column and hear the reports at membership meetings.

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## Dressing Room Chatter

### Joe Connelly Reports On Theater Workers' Federation Convention

By JOE CONNELLY

As we pointed out in last week's column your correspondent will be winding up attendance at the convention of the California State Federation of Labor in San Diego as this edition reaches you.

Prior to that convention on Friday night, August 12, Brother William Daul, secretary of the second district of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees and Moving Picture Machine Operators of the United States and Canada called a general meeting of the district.

The group again met Saturday afternoon, August 13. Much of the subject matter was of interest to technicians, mainly operators and stagehands in our locality.

The T-V set-up and the latest developments in projection technique were discussed by competent speakers.

The 35th Anniversary convention of the California State Theatrical Federation met Saturday morning and adjourned to Sunday morning, as many of the delegates attended the meeting of District Number Two of the I.A.T.S.E. which we referred to in a previous paragraph.

President Pat Somerset of the Screen Actors Guild and Secretary-Treasurer William P. Sutherland of Theatrical Employees' Union Local B-18 I.A.T.S.E. were returned to office without opposition.

Of local interest was the re-election to the Executive Council of Joe Connelly in District No. 8. Brother Connelly is Business Manager of the Theatrical Employees' Union Local B-82 I.A.T.S.E.

The I.A.T.S.E. Theatrical Federation Convention acted favorably on five resolutions, but due to space limitations (mine and yours) we will only mention their protestation of 20 percent amusement tax which was originally adopted as a war time measure. While all other comparable excise taxes have been either repealed or substantially reduced the amusement tax continues at a highly discriminatory 20%.

Musicians, waiters, cooks, bartenders and other service employees directly suffer from this discrimination.

Saturday evening the San Diego County Theatrical Federation held a banquet for the delegates in the Hotel San Diego. Look in another part of the paper for news coverage of the State Federation of Labor convention.

### Personal Income Is at Record High

Washington (AFL News)—For the first time in the country's history personal income topped the \$300 billion annual rate mark in May, the Commerce Department reported.

The department's estimates of wages and salaries, net income of proprietorships and partnerships, dividends and interest and net rents received by landlords hit \$301 billion in May, figured on an annual basis.

The May figures were \$2 billion ahead of April and \$14.4 billion higher than in May, 1954. The April-May increase in private payrolls was widespread among industries, the department said, with all major manufacturing groups participating in the advance. Total factory payrolls increased at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$1.5 billion in the period, a result of higher employment, longer work weeks and increases in wage rates.

The Federal Reserve Board reported that another indicator of economic health also set a record — industrial production hit a rate of 138 per cent in June, topping June, 1954 by 14 points.

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### Plasterers 112

Special called meeting at the Labor Temple, 2315 Valdez street, Oakland, Saturday, August 20, 10 a.m., Hall A.

A report of your negotiation committee, and counter proposal by our employers, for adoption or rejection.

Time is very short. Please be present.

Fraternally yours,  
GEORGE WHITTON,  
Secretary-Treasurer

### San Francisco-Oakland Mailers 18

The next regular meeting of San Francisco-Oakland Mailers' Union, No. 18 will be held at Mechanics Hall, Labor Temple, San Francisco, Calif. On Sunday afternoon, August 21, 1955, at one o'clock.

Yours fraternally,  
HORACE STAFFORD,  
Secretary.

### Sheet Metal Workers 216

Death Assessment No. 374 is now due and payable. Brother Arthur Hartmann, No. 218903, a member of our Local No. 216, passed away on July 11, 1955.

Yours fraternally,  
LLOYD CHUD,  
Business Representative

### Millmen 550

Members are reminded that there is a real need for donations to the Millmen's Blood Bank, and that for each such donation there is remission of 3 months' dues.

Those wishing to donate blood should get in touch with the undersigned for appointments with the Blood Bank.

Fraternally yours,  
E. H. OVENBERG,  
Secretary

### Painters 127

Brother Members Take Note:

The next meeting on August 25th, will be a Special called meeting to act on changes in our present Death Insurance. Also any other business that may come up.

Fraternally,  
EDGAR S. GULBRANSEN,  
Recording Secretary

### Steamfitters 342

Our next meeting to be held September 1, 1955 will be a Special. Called meeting for the purpose of hearing reports of our Delegates to the California State Federation of Labor Convention.

Fraternally,  
JAMES MARTIN,  
Fin. Sec'y, Bus. Mgr.,  
Steamfitters Union No. 342

### To All Members of East Bay Automotive Machinists 1546

You are herewith officially notified that Lodge 1546 meets in regular session on the first and third Tuesday of each month at the hour of 8:00 P.M. in the Labor Temple, 2315 Valdez Street Oakland 12, California.

Meeting hall will be posted on the bulletin board in the lobby of said Temple and you are herewith officially requested to be in attendance.

Fraternally,  
A. J. HAYES,  
Recording Secretary

### Building Service Employees 18

Building Service Union Local 18 will not have a general membership meeting in August, and the next meeting will not be until the fourth Friday in September on the 23d.

Fraternally yours,  
W. DOUGLAS GELBERT,  
Secretary-Treasurer

### Hayward Painters 1178

The third Friday of the month comes on the 19th, so "Govern Yourself Accordingly". After the regular order of business has been acted upon, there will be a Special Called Meeting to act on a possible change of our Life Insurance Policy to another Insurance Co. from the one we now have. Be sure to attend that meeting and take your part in the discussion of this question.

Fraternally yours,  
ROBERT G. MILLER,  
Recording Secretary

### Painters 127 Call Special Meeting

Strokes of the Brush from Local No. 127

By HUGHIE RUTLEDGE

Brother J. P. L. McCully in our local death insurance policy. As any action taken by the local will be binding on the membership we ask that each and every brother attend this meeting. We recognize fully the right of each and every member to air his gripes in the office and we are perfectly willing as salaried employees to listen and try to explain the reason but we also feel that it is your duty to attend the meeting and explain your thoughts in a place where it really counts. Remember the date THURSDAY, AUGUST 25, 8 p.m., regular meeting hall.

A special called meeting of the local will be held Thursday, August 25 for the purpose of reviewing our local death benefit. Many of the brothers are unaware that the higher cost of membership in this local over other locals in this area is because we carry an additional \$1,000.00 of insurance. As far as the actual dues of the local is concerned all locals pay approximately the same amount.

Some suggestions have been made that by dropping the additional \$1,000.00 of death insurance all locals will be on the same level. Other brothers have stated that the cost of this \$1,000.00 namely \$1.30 a month is so reasonable that the local would be foolish to drop it. Because of the varied opinions and the idea that our insurance policy is not understood by all our members the executive board recommended that we call a special meeting for this purpose.

While typing these notes to day (Tuesday) a brother called to pay dues and he did not understand that as a member of the local he has \$2,000.00 of insurance plus the \$1,000.00 covered by the welfare plan or a total of \$3,000.00. This local is the only local in California of the brotherhood of painters which has this amount of insurance. However, this additional amount costs the brothers \$1.30 per month or \$3.90 per quarter. The president of the local has assured me that only the most pressing business will be transacted at this special meeting so that a full and open discussion will take place on the matter of

our local death insurance policy. As any action taken by the local will be binding on the membership we ask that each and every brother attend this meeting. We recognize fully the right of each and every member to air his gripes in the office and we are perfectly willing as salaried employees to listen and try to explain the reason but we also feel that it is your duty to attend the meeting and explain your thoughts in a place where it really counts. Remember the date THURSDAY, AUGUST 25, 8 p.m., regular meeting hall.

Work holding up fine with all brothers on the job who want to work. Still calls for a good many more men than we can furnish. Looks good for quite some time.

Brother Peaslee attending the California State Federation of Labor in San Diego along with Brother Smilovitz and a great many other representatives from this area.

Since the action of the Local Joint Committee in appointing one man to sign all overtime permits including Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays, applications for overtime have dropped from 38 a weekend to 8 last weekend. Attached to each weekend permit at present is a certification slip that must be signed by the employer and returned within 5 days to the joint committee giving the names and social security numbers of all employees who worked the overtime and also certifying that the provisions of the Bay Area Agreement have been complied with. Of course, included in these provisions is the clause calling for double time for Saturdays, Sundays and holidays. Nuff said.

See you at the special meeting.

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## Watchmakers Give Finance Statement

By GEORGE F. ALLEN

In order that our audits may coincide with the calendar year, we have had to include a seven months' period in our last audits. Audits of the Insurance Fund and claims paid for the seven months' period December 1, 1954 through June 30, 1955 with list of claims paid for this period have already been mailed to the employers. We are listing below the claims which have been paid for this period:

Genevieve Berschens (Dep. of John Berschens) \$540; Joe Rosencstock \$25; Harvey C. Lloyd \$18.25; Betty Grandstaff (Dep. of Douglas Grandstaff) \$270; Robert H. Wong \$307.45; Archie Westlund \$15; Leonard Thorsen \$5; Clifford Patten \$39.50; Cecil F. O'Donnell \$75; Mildred Heferman (Dep. of Norwood J. Heferman) \$137.83; Fulvio Parenti \$433.16; Betty Grandstaff (Dep. of Douglas Grandstaff) \$414; James Cates \$42; Eva Haller (Dep. of Charles Haller) \$200; Victor Venturi \$25; Robert H. Wong \$352; Thomas Ashmore \$85.85; Fulvio Parenti \$33.85; Clifford Patten \$25; SAN JOSE

MEMBERS FOLLOW: Emil Nep-rash \$1,060; Joseph Oliver \$100.55; Charles Gunnert \$24.14; Ainsley Edmunds \$238.93; Edwin Wixom \$25; Ruben Gonzales (Dep. Ralph Gonzales) \$156.28; Rosemary Crittenden (Dep. of John Crittenden) \$112.06; John Crittenden \$270.30; Edwin Wixom \$23.28; Leon Greenberg

\$35; Renato Gonzales (Dep. of Ralph Gonzales) \$22.50.

Following members covered by Kaiser Foundation Health Service plan were paid sickness or accident benefits William Hart-ley \$94.30; John Ralston \$37.70; Edmond Pionczak \$44; John Ralston \$125.71; Hugo Koskela \$176; Dennis Michell \$56.55.

San Francisco-East Bay members: Remember! There is no membership meeting in August — mail your current dues to the office.

Executive Board members: The Executive Board will meet on Thursday, August 25 at 7:00 p.m. — union office.

Horse Named by Typo Wins Two Good Races

NEW YORK CITY (AFL News) — A Cincinnati linotype operator, Walter Mills, won a race horse in the second annual Derby Day Contest sponsored by Union Made Kentucky Club pipe tobacco.

Mills won the chestnut grand-nephew of Sir Galahad III by submitting the name Delphidessa for the filly. Since receiving his prize, Mills has raced the horse three times, winning twice.

Tell 'em you saw it in the East Bay Labor Journal.

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## Further Job Gains In Fall Predicted

WASHINGTON (AFL News)—The Labor Department reported a survey of manpower conditions and hiring plans indicate further job gains in early autumn.

The survey of 149 major industrial areas showed that expanding payrolls and seasonal expansion contributed strongly to employment improvements and reductions in joblessness in many areas.

Three-fourths of the areas anticipated slight to moderate gains in over-all employment in the early fall. The department said unemployment among experienced adult workers has dropped sharply since May.

The number of areas with labor surplus problems in July dropped to 31 compared to 35 in May and 53 a year ago, the department said. These areas are eligible for special government aid to ease unemployment. The department also maintains a list of smaller areas. The recent survey showed 101 such areas eligible for special treatment as compared to 105 in May and 113 in March.

OLD AGE PENSION group meets in Oakland Saturday, August 20, 1:30 p.m., in the Key-System Employees Bldg., 410 11th street.

## Paid Vacations In Metropolitan Area

Paid vacations are granted to 84 percent of the workers covered by union contracts in the San Francisco-Oakland Metropolitan Area. More than half receive 2 weeks per year after either 1 or 2 years' service.

About 3 out of every 4 workers in this area under union contracts receive paid holidays. Seven per year is the number of paid holidays most frequently granted — 35 percent of the workers covered by contracts receive this number. More than half (57 percent) are granted 7, 8, or more paid holidays each year. Sick leave without loss of pay is provided for 1 out of every 4 workers covered by union contracts. One week per year is the sick leave allowance most frequently granted.

These are some of the facts in a report on "Union Labor in California" released today by Ernest B. Webb, Director of the California Department of Industrial Relations.

The report, prepared by the Department's Division of Labor Statistics and Research, records the size, growth, and other facts concerning California labor unions.

Copies of the report are available on request from the Division of Labor Statistics and Research, P. O. Box 965, San Francisco 1.

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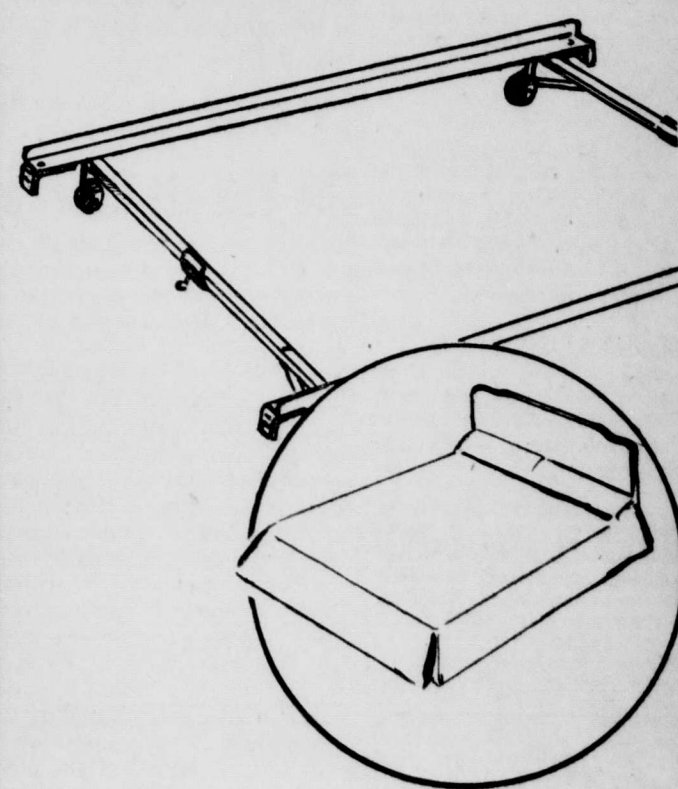
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## East Bay Labor Journal

1622 EAST 12TH STREET  
OAKLAND 6, CALIFORNIA  
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FOUNDED APRIL 3, 1926

Only Official Publication of AFL  
Central Labor and Building  
Construction Trades Councils  
of Alameda County.

AUGUST 19, 1955

## OPINIONS

### 7-HOUR DAY

Editor Labor Journal:

I want to compliment you on an occasional sane article regarding this "red hunting" so popular the last 10 years.

As I have watched the application of Taft-Hartley, the million dollar fines levied against unions, the open-shop made compulsory in 18 states, the strangulation of political action, and finally the driving out of existence of some unions, I have become a convert to the premise that the whole witch-hunt business has been designed to fool and bewilder us while the concentration of great wealth continued; the same concentration of wealth the Roosevelt Administration was exposing to an extent when it ceased to exist.

As the enthusiasm for the shorter work day develops—and develop it will because of the thousands of GIs-turned-tradesmen who have become disillusioned about becoming "bosses" themselves; because of mechanical improvements; and because we simply must have a reduction in hours in order to function as citizens in a complex democracy—as this continues you would do well to point out that this trend is going to cost money sometimes and it is going to be baited to High Heaven. It's going to be said, truthfully, I believe, that those who advocate shorter hours are following a communist line. And, according to the Communist Control Act of 1954, courts are to be guided in determining whether an individual or union is "communist" by "a willingness to carry out in any manner . . . the objectives . . . of a communist organization."

This is the predicament we are in: (1) we remain safe and secure by renouncing program, or (2) we say, "The real patriot works for an alleviation of human toil, the uplifting of the human race, and in a degree this is what the shortening of hours means. We are for it. If you are against it say so. If you are for it, join us."

Fraternalty yours,  
BOB ROSE,

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** While it is true that the Commies will try to ride the bandwagon on the 7-hour day issue, it may be suggested that it is doubtful that labor's agitation for the shorter workday can with any success be smeared as a Commie project. The idea is so much in line with organized labor's traditional attitude that it's going to be very difficult to convince many people that it's imported from Moscow.

## FUNERAL NOTICE

Bill Gold, Washington Post and Times-Herald columnist, tells of a sign that hangs in a certain factory and reads:

"Anybody wishing time off to attend a funeral must tell the foreman before 10:30 of the morning of the game." — The Machinist.

## FLOP!

All the fancy talk at the White House leave-taking ceremonies cannot destroy the essential fact about Mrs. Hobby's record. She was a flop—a complete and utter flop.—CIO News.

## RAILROADS?

Marriage is like a railway sign: you see a lovely girl and stop; then you look; and after you're married—you listen. — Pattern Makers Journal.

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## EDITORIALS

### BTC Action Against UC Shows How Unions Back the Workers

The action brought in the Superior Court by the Building Trades Council against the Regents of the University of California is a good illustration of what organized labor can do for its members which they could not do for themselves individually.

Workers belonging to building trades unions employed by UC have, they feel, sick pay coming to them. But in the old days before unions what could the individual worker have done about it? Not much but gripe, and he'd have to gripe rather privately, too, or he'd have been fired.

The individual worker who felt that he had, say, 20 days of sick leave pay coming to him couldn't have afforded to go to court about it, that's sure.

But the situation is different when you belong to a union and your union is affiliated with the Building Trades Council. The council gets an able law firm—Smith & Parrish in this instance—the lawyers take five typical cases and file an action for what is called "declaratory relief." This simply means that if the court rules those five men are entitled to sick leave, the way is automatically cleared for the many others involved to get it.

The petition filed with the Superior Court concedes that after the Regents adopted a certain resolution, "under the aforesaid resolution sick leave benefits could no longer be accumulated after July 1, 1954." But it goes on to contend:

"Sick leave benefits accumulated prior to the date July 1, 1954, had been earned, accumulated, and accrued, and remained as a benefit to which they were entitled when and if they became sick and disabled while in the employ of the defendants."

There's no intricate legalistic phrasing in that. Seems simple to us simple labor folk. But what could the individual worker do about it? Nothing, but the Building Trades Council can do something, and is doing it.

### Labor People Like Baseball?

The future of baseball on the Pacific Coast is of interest to many labor people simply because a lot of us like baseball. So when Charlie Einstein, who helped Willie Mays write his autobiography, "Born to Play Ball," informs the world that there may be five major league baseball teams in this country, it seems worth noting in a labor paper.

Einstein, writing in the Reporter, fortnightly national magazine, declares roundly:

"The gulpeposts, such as they are, say five big leagues. But don't let Tokyo hear about that. There might be six."

In other words, in these days of the airplane, it's not only possible, but probable, in the minds of the well informed that major league baseball is going to spread and spread.

The five major leagues as Charlie Einstein names them, would be: Eastern, Central, Southern, Northwest, and Southwest. Northwest, that's us, with the following cities in it: Chicago, Denver, Los Angeles, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, Portland, San Francisco, Seattle. Los Angeles, in Einstein's dope book, goes also into the Southwest League, with other cities ranging from San Diego to Kansas City.

Einstein insists that the fact a town won't support a minor league team doesn't mean it would not support a major one. He figures that the minor leagues are through, and that with TV pressing hard on the old established customs in the game there's sure to be a "vast turnover."

But the question may be asked: Though we still call baseball the national game, is the nation as much interested in it as formerly?

Well, Baseball Commissioner Ford Frick recently announced some of the results from a survey based on 10,000 replies to a mail questionnaire sent to 45,000 persons in 13 States covering major league territory.

Of the 10,000 sending replies, 93.7% agreed with the statement that baseball can still be considered the national game; 49% said their interest in the game had increased during the past 10 years; 39% said their interest had remained unchanged; 39% said they had been to a game from one to five times during the past 12 months; and 26% said they had attended more than five times in the year.

However, pilot studies among college age groups indicated somewhat less interest in baseball than among older people.

The survey, expected to be in final form after the world series, will contain full statistics on national public sentiment about baseball.

If the minors are to be practically wiped out, and a major league team is located in San Francisco, Oakland local pride will take somewhat of a tumble; it may be rather hard to take when the East Bay area is actually greater in population than the old center across the Bay. But these are the days of mergers and manglings of local pride and of some of the merges in business and labor, so it's part of the climate of our time.

What we're really curious about is this: How many labor people would cross the Bay with fair regularity to attend major league games?

### The Talbott Case, and Then—!

Right after the Talbott case, with its revelation of how one GOP business man thought he could feather his nest by conducting private business solicitation with the authority of the U. S. Government to back him, more painful facts are coming out.

Walter S. White, executive secretary of Secretary of Commerce Sinclair Weeks' Business Advisory Council, has revealed to a committee of Congress the names of the big business men who have contributed to the fund used by the committee for investigating anti-trust matters. Naturally, considering that this is a Big Business Administration, it turns out that these gentlemen are connected with firms that in the past have had anti-trust suits filed against them.

But the privately contributed fund with which the "advisory committee" investigates labor matters is still larger, which doesn't surprise us a bit. For if these gentry hate anti-trust legislation, they hate organized labor still more.

We doubt if there's much danger of these advisors of Secretary Weeks, after they've spent that privately contributed money investigating labor legislation, advising him to work for the repeal of the Taft-Hartley Law.

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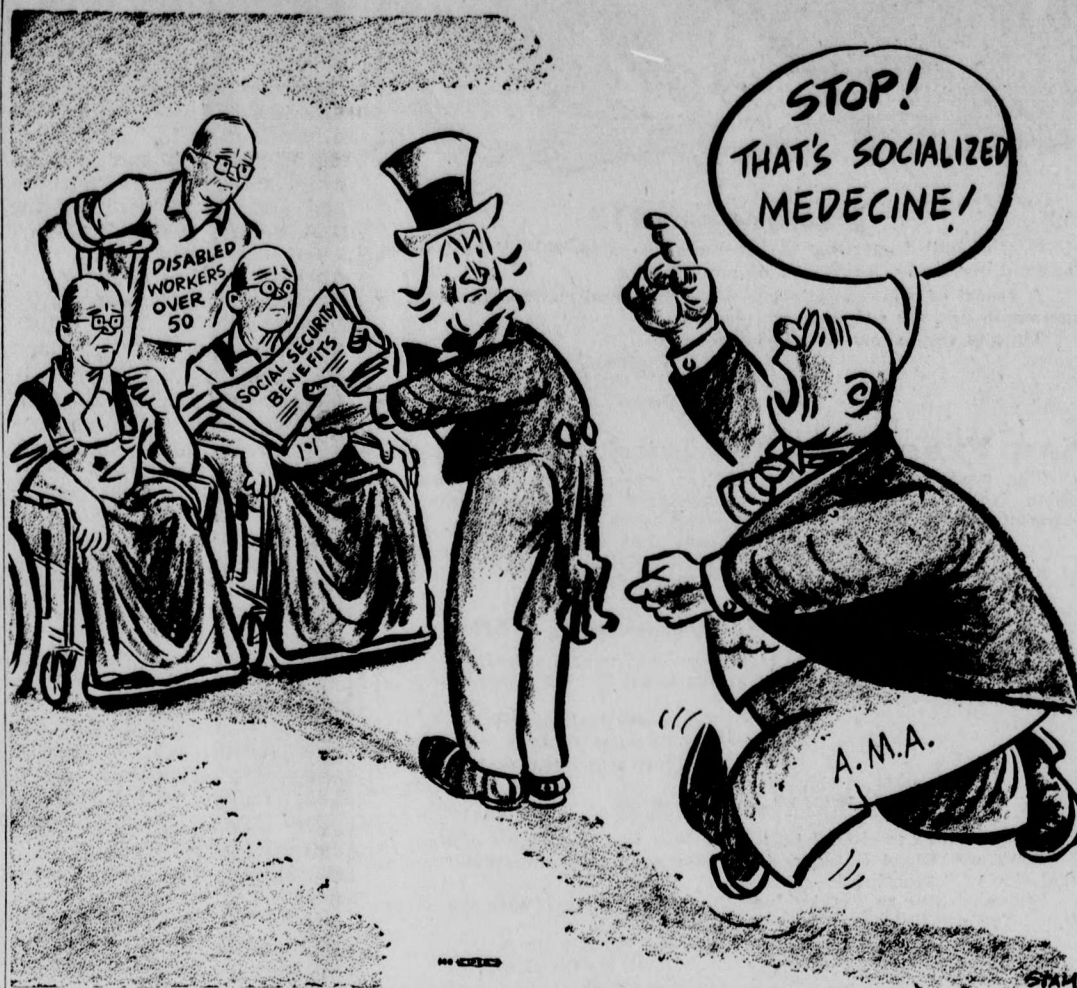
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## Where Have We Heard That Before?



### Unionist Criticizes Sharply Labor Council and Journal

Below will be found in the left hand column a letter to East Bay Labor Journal from a member of a local union, and in the right hand column the editor's comment on the points raised by the letter:

#### THE LETTER

Editor Labor Journal:

Though I am still indignant at the graft that I uncovered in G.I. financing of homes, I have after much reflection, come to the conclusion that a "Letter to the Editor" of your paper would not reach the desired coverage so would on the whole, be a wasteful expenditure of time and effort.

My talking with you, though, did convince me that there is a need, a desperate need, for a cleaning up and renovation of the policies of the labor movement in our region and on the national scope as well. Labor on the whole and the A.F. of L. especially, has been slipping badly these past ten years and it is past time that we within the labor movement, take heed and make repairs before there is complete disintegration. This self-pitying cry that "Taft-Hartley" and "Right to Work" laws are hamstringing us, may have some truth but on the other hand it is the public's answer to our own shortsightedness in refusing to clean up our own houses and accept the responsibilities that labor owes to the public.

Therefore, I make the following three assertions and would welcome an invitation to address our Labor Council or a challenge of Public debate with any of its members on any or all of these assertions:

1. The policy of our labor council as now constituted is detrimental to the best interests of labor.

2. Inasmuch as our labor paper is but a mouthpiece of the Labor Council and is denied the right of free expression, it is useless, indefensible and an unnecessary expense and should either be abandoned or be equipped and provided to do the job for which there is a real necessity.

3. Due to hesitancy in cleaning up our houses and refusing to accept the responsibilities that labor owes the public, we have degraded so far, politically at least, that the recommendations of our Labor Council are valueless and at times, even constitute the "Kiss of Death" to political candidates and propositions.

Frankly, Mr. Editor, I do not expect you to publish this letter and I fear am only "tilting at windmills" but still Don Quixote did just that and gave the world one of its greatest authors by so doing and so I feel there is an offense that you may have the fortitude to publish this letter and the council to accept my offer and in the end maybe we can all do something to help the labor movement, which is of vital interest to us all.

Yours sincerely,

Note: The above letter was signed, with the address of the writer, and the name of the union to which he belongs. For reasons stated in the adjoining column the editor withheld the signature.

#### THE COMMENT

The editor of East Bay Labor Journal makes the following comment on the letter in the adjoining column:

The man who wrote the letter called at our office a week or so before writing the letter. He urged that East Bay Labor Journal undertake a crusade against practices which he said he had found prevailing in the

financing of GI loans. The editor's reply was that:

1—East Bay Labor Journal is the property of Central Labor Council and Building Trades Council, and before the paper could launch into so elaborate and costly an enterprise as that proposed there would have to be some action taken by one or both of the councils which would provide a basis for action by the paper.

2—Such investigations are far more costly than the average person unacquainted with newspaper economics can possibly realize; the editor of East Bay Labor Journal has himself in the past while employed by big dailies worked for weeks on investigations which failed to unearth the expected data in non-litigious publishable form, and accordingly all the money spent on the investigation came to nothing; East Bay Labor Journal as a small weekly cannot undertake such enterprises.

3—Accordingly, the sensible thing to do would be to organize the evidence of the alleged irregularities and discuss it with officers of the Central Labor Council; if they felt that the charges should be investigated they could proceed in ways that East Bay Labor Journal could not undertake without adequate authorization and extra financing.

In reply to these suggestions the brother replied that he felt positive the Central Labor Council would do nothing, and that he was interested indeed to learn that the editor of East Bay Labor Journal was bound and gagged and unable to do anything for the labor movement. This allegation was discussed with a reasonable degree of affability for a time, and then the editor suggested that the brother write a letter to the editor setting forth in coherent orderly form just what it was the letter writer felt should be investigated. Such a letter, it was promised, would be published.

The letter in the adjoining column resulted. The editor has withheld from publication the name of the letter writer, feeling that it was written in anger without careful consideration of just what purpose its writer wishes to have served, and that there is no reason why the letter writer should by publication of his name get involved in a lot of futile controversy with fellow unionists.

Unions and their central councils have certain procedures, and editors are under the obligation of refraining from steps that might bankrupt the paper or get it into costly libel actions. And while it is a fact that these necessities of a complex civilization may be annoying to one who is burning with a sense of wrong, the uncomfortable truth is that little is gained by firing off general charges that the Central Labor Council is no good and the labor paper is worthless.

If it be asked why East Bay Labor Journal even prints such an effusion as the angry brother has sent in, the reply is that this paper has for years been edited on the principle of sensitive awareness to the dangers of the spirit of bureaucracy creeping into the labor movement, and of its editors becoming mere yes-men and the mouthpiece of little cliques of leaders. Accordingly, some ventilation of grievances of rank and file members, however intemperately they may be at times expressed, seems an essential function of good labor journalism.

### Social Security's 20th Anniversary Noted by Oakland District Manager

The Oakland social security office at 1509 Clay street participated in the nationwide observance of the twentieth anniversary of the enactment of the original social security law, Victor C. Broome district manager, announced today.

The Social Security Act became law on August 14, 1935. "At that time only about one worker in 10 was covered by any retirement system, and only about one worker in 20 by a public retirement program," Broome said. As of July of this year, 40,000 persons were receiving a total of \$2,450,000 monthly in the area serviced by the Oakland office.

Pointing out that 9 out of 10 people who work for a living can now look forward to retirement benefits under the old-age and survivors insurance program, Broome said that the original law provided only old-age protection. It applied to some 33 million workers in commerce and industry. The 1939 amendments added payments for dependents of retired workers and for the survivors of workers who died.

It was not until 1951 that coverage was extended to the self-employed, and to certain employees of non-profit organizations, regularly employed domestic and farm workers, and some employees of Federal, State, and local governments. Ten million more workers were brought under the program through the 1954 amendments which extended coverage to self-employed farmers, most farm employees and workers in private households, and certain self-employed professionals. Protection was also made available, under special agreements, to more State and local government employees, and to ministers and members of religious orders. "About 67 million persons will build this protection for themselves and their families during 1955," Broome declared.

Broome pointed out that the average old-age benefit payment has increased from \$22.60 monthly in 1940 to \$60 monthly at the end of 1954. Payments are still higher for retired workers who have more recently

come on the rolls. This average old-age payment is now \$80, and the average monthly payment to a young widow with two minor children is \$185.

As an illustration of the progress of the program during the twenty years of its existence, Broome said that many people who had themselves received benefits as children now have families of their own and are building old-age and survivors insurance protection through employment or self-employment now covered by the law.

Looking to the future, Broome said that by 1975, when there will be an estimated 20 million Americans age 65 or over, 4 out of 5 of them will be eligible for benefit payments as retired workers, aged wives, dependent husbands, widows or dependent widowers or aged parents. At that time, it is expected that 90 million people will be in work covered by the law, and 93 million people will be insured, Broome predicted.

### Wage Rise Recommended In Truck, Railway Cases

WASHINGTON (AFL News)—Two emergency boards dealing with rail and trucking disputes recommended wage increases as the basis for settlement.

One board recommended an increase of 11 cents an hour for Railway Express Agency employees belonging to the AFL Teamsters in New York City. Employees of the company in Chicago, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Newark, Philadelphia, St. Louis and San Francisco would get an equivalent package 3 cents of which would go for establishment of a health and welfare fund similar to the one in effect in New York.

The other board recommended a wage formula that would put members of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Engineers on a 40-hour week and maintain a basis of parity with non-operating employees already on a 40-hour week.

Tell 'em you saw it in the East Bay Labor Journal.

### Meet the Longs who set up housekeeping in San Jose in 1935

20 YEARS AGO — when George and Jean Long were married, they had just four appliances: range, water heater, waffle iron and radio.



TODAY — their comfortable home has 19 more appliances, including: refrigerator, washer, ironer, gas furnace, television set, vacuum cleaner, toaster, mixer, clock, coffee-maker, razor, heating pad, record player, sun lamp, 2 radios, fan, hedge clippers and drill.

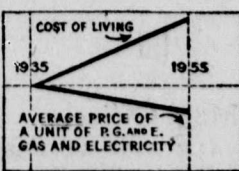


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Most Californians, like the Longs, have added gas and electric servants over the years. The average California home uses three times as much gas and electricity as twenty years ago. Naturally, your total bill is higher, but the average price of a kilowatt hour of electricity and a cubic foot of gas is about one-third less than in

1935 — thanks to mass production economies. As a result, the Long's gas and electric bill in a recent month was \$13.73. In 1935 the same amount would have cost over \$18.00. And this same saving will most likely apply to your bill. Can you think of any other prices that are lower today than 20 years ago? No wonder we say...



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